Provisions Act, 1955 in* regard to interim rates of wages are still awaited. As soon as the recommendations are received, they will be considered by Government under Section 13A of the Act. Government have already requested the Wage Boards to expedite their recommendations.

**Payments to workers of Rohtas Industries Limited, Dalmia Nagar**

•138. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Rohtas Industries Limited, Dalmia Nagar has not so far paid the salaries and wages due to their 15000 workers from May, 1984;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court has directed the management of the company to pay the salaries and dues to the workers; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose *to* take to see that the directives of the Supreme Court are complied with without any delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes. Sir. According to information received from the Government of Bihar, Management of M|s. Rohtas Industries Limited. Dalmia Nagar has not paid wages to workers from May, 1984.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In its order dated the 5-2-1986, the Supreme Court has directed the Management to pay all salaries and wages due to workers from May, 1984 in three instalments, the first before March 15. 1986, the second before May 15, 1986 and the third before July 15, 1986. According to information received from the Government of Bihar, the Management has been directed to make the payment as per the directive of the Supreme Court. The Chief Inspector of Factories has been asked to supervise the payment and send weekly reports regarding progress in making payments.

**Import of natural and synthetic rubber**

♦139. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) what are the reasons for im porting! synthetic and {natural rub ber into the country during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) what was the estimated demand for rubber during the above period in the country;

(c) what was the production of rubber during the above period;

(d) what was the comparative shortfall during the said -period, year-wise; and

(e) whether any memorandum ha$_s$ been received by Government against the import of rubber?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) to (d) Imports of natural and synthe-

tic rubber have been allowed to meet the gap between demand and indigenous production as detailed below: —

(Qty. in tonnes)

| Year | Production | Consumption | Shortfall | Imports |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Natural Rubber* | | | | |
| 1982-83 | 165850 | 195545 | 30000 | 31659 |
| 1983-84 | 175280 | 209480 | 34000 | 32175 |
| 1984-85 | 186450 | 217510 | 31000 | 32408 |
| *Synthetic Rubber* | | | | |
| 1982-83 | 30290 | 55250 | 25000 | 24550 |
| 1983-84 | 32270 | 62300 | 30000 | 30000 |
| 1984-85 | 37669 | 65400 | 28000 | 24000 |

(e) Representations both for and against such imports have been received.

**Assistance to exporters**

*140. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what assistance is given to the exporters in the matter of export promotion, formation of Export Promotion Councils, associations of members with the management through the democratic processes and for the efficient working of such Councils?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): In order to promote exports. Government provide$_s$ assistance^ common to all export products, under various schemes a$_s$ listed below: —

(li) *Cash Compensatory Support:* Cash Compensatory support is provided to compensate the Indian exporters for various disadvantages which are inherent in our present stage of economic development.

(2) *Duty Drawback System'.* Under the Duty Drawback Scheme, exporters are allowed reimbursement of customs and central excise duties paid on materials, comprising raw materials, components and packing materials used in the manufacture and packing of export products.

(3) *Import Replenishment Scheme:* Under this Scheme, Import licenes are granted for replenishment of imported materials required in the manufacture of exported products.

(4) *Advance Import Licence Scheme;* Under this Scheme, the exporters are eligible to obtain advance licences for their requirements of imported raw materials.

(5) *Duty Exemption Scheme:* Under this Scheme, duty free import of specified raw materials/ components required for manufacture of export products is allowed for execution of specific export orders.

(6) *Import* Export *Pass Book Scheme:* Under this Scheme, manufacturer-exporters can obtain their requirements to import raw materials without having to apply re-peatedly for advance/imprest and R.E.P. licences.

(7) *Export Houses and Trading Houses Scheme:* Under this scheme, exporters can get themselves recognised as Export Houses/Trading: